

# WHAT THE BEST DRESSED WOMEN ARE GOING TO WEAR

## Paris Fashions

Strikingly Smart  
and Effective  
Winter Models



Dove Colored Brocade Gown  
Photo by Henri Manuel  
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Purple and Black Ninon Gown  
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Brown and Black Striped Costume  
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Brocade and Caratul Scarf  
Photo by Henri Manuel

BY MRS. A. T. ASHMORE.

HERE is such a feeling of unrest and uncertainty in regard to all matters pertaining to dress at the moment that many women declare they are tempted to wear last year's gowns rather than order blindly. However, they would seem to have resisted the temptation, judging from the number of smart and most up to date costumes worn by women of all ages. Marked individuality is demanded of every dressmaker, but with the individuality certain rules must also be observed in keeping with the accepted style of the day. The exaggeratedly scant skirt is no longer smart, and there must be sufficient width to allow of a long step, but all the same the general effect must be of extreme slenderness. The kimono sleeve is soon to be banished, but there are few gowns that do not have the kimono style of sleeve, modified tremendously in many instances and always modified to suit the individual wearer. In fact, not only must the fashions be individual and distinctive, but they must be planned to suit the individual.

### Smart Long Coats.

When word goes forth that coats are to be long the majority of women order blindly "a long coat," while the woman who knows clothes and who follows the advice of her tried and trusted dressmaker sallies forth in a coat of just the length necessary to be becoming. There is a charming long coat this season, the creation of an artist designer, that if carefully selected is intensely becoming, made in ratine, rough cloth and marseilles; it is delightfully smart with skirt to match. It hangs straight from the shoulders, is double-breasted, fastened with frogs, has a narrow velvet collar, wide turn back cuffs with broad band of fur. The narrow skirt is finished with a broad band of fur and there is an exaggerated large muff of shirred silk or satin trimmed with bands of fur.

From the same establishment is a most



Purple Brocade Satin Gown  
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White Satin Gown with Ermine Scarf  
Photo by Henri Manuel  
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Gray Brocade Crepe de Chine Gown  
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materials of this gown are most costly, but excessive simplicity is the keynote. It is not a model to be rashly attempted, for again does this also show the hand of an artist in clothes; but it does furnish details that are worth copying. The waist and sleeves can, for instance, be combined with a skirt much simpler in design, less difficult to copy and more generally becoming. At the same time, as it stands it is the perfection of a smart reception gown of the present day.

### Light Colored Gowns Popular.

White and light colored gowns of all kinds are immensely smart, and becoming more so every day. It is the customary reaction from the black and dark colors that have been so fashionable, and, while not practical for general wear, for the woman who is forced to depend upon public conveyances they are none the less perhaps all the more smart. White wool back satin, white cloth, white chiffon velvets, white ratine and all the lightest shades of color are being made into the most fascinating of afternoon costumes, of coat, skirt and waist, or in the one piece gown to be worn under the fur coat or wrap. There is something delightfully incongruous in white for the winter, and then, all furs look so well with it. Ermine, the skins without the tails, trimmed with a border of the tails, is made up into enormously wide stoles and huge muffs. These stoles or wraps are made sufficiently warm to permit the wearing with the one piece gown without any other coat or wrap. Then the dark furs are always most effective in contrast to white and light colors, and a broad band of fur around the skirt, wide cuffs and revers on a plain white costume is strikingly becoming.

These wide fur scarfs are a most important factor in the wardrobe of this winter, and the beauty of the fur never shows to greater advantage. As wide and as long as possible is apparently the rule, and often these scarfs are of such proportions that they can be wrapped once or twice around the figure. Mole-skin, seal-skin, motté, Persian, ermine and sable are the most fashionable furs

White plays an all important part in to take advantage of so charming a fashion, and white revers and collars—anything to bring white near the face—are desired. It is a most becoming fashion, and the fine soft tulle, net and shadow laces are a great addition to any and every waist. There are many different styles and lengths of sleeves. The modified kimono is so becoming that it is to be hoped the fashion will remain popular indefinitely, but it is so extremely popular there is small chance that this will be so. Many of the evening gowns this season have a kimono style of trimming. The en-

ingering forever. The wrapped as well as the draped effects are carried out to greatest advantage in the new materials of this season. Brocade crepe de Chine and liberty satin for



Black Velvet Gown, with Venetian Lace.

or motifs. The loose coat could only be designed and finished by an artist in clothes, for while apparently shapeless it is extremely smart, a most unusual combination, be it known. The coat is so double breasted that one side laps completely over the other. On the wide white revers is an embroidered design that stands out clear and distinct against the white background. The loose kimono sleeves are short—just below the elbow—and finished with deep bands of fur. And there is also the inevitable huge muff to complete the costume. To the uninitiated this model seems devoid of line and symmetry, but there is a charm about it that attracts attention, and to the initiated in the mysteries of dress the lines are wonderful and the very shapelessness indicates study of every line and good point of the individual.

### Long Skirts in Favor.

The long skirt has returned to favor, and while the round skirt still retains its hold on popularity the trend is all toward the far more becoming train. As is always the case when fashions change from one extreme to the other, not only are the skirts of evening gowns made exaggeratedly long, but for reception and afternoon wear are to be seen skirts with trains that lie on the floor. Charmingly graceful are some of the new fashions, and there are many that are not exag-

gerated and are becoming and practical. The soft, clinging fabrics are still the smartest and the trained skirts of plain and brocade silk, voile, satin and velvet are one and all popular. The smart afternoon and reception gown is this year more attractive than ever, possibly because of the more generally becoming long skirt, while combining plain and figured materials permits of more variety. A charming model is a plain liberty satin combination with a velvet brocade satin or ermine-trimmed skirt. The changeable voile de soie. The gown is of the plain material, the skirt bordered with fur; then there is a wide scarf of the same color with large polka dots of velvet or plush and a muff to match, and this scarf must be worn so that at first glance it looks like a long train. This gown has only a short train and is more on the round skirt shape.

Liberty satin and satin charmeuse are fabrics that have for some time been fashionable. Voile de soie and chiffon have also been in great demand. Again these fabrics are one and all utilized in the most fascinating of gowns, and utilized as only an artist can utilize them. No distinct line to be followed, no arbitrary rule can be laid down to produce such wonderful results as are attained by the present styles when carried out to perfection. The material is wrapped rather than draped around the figure, but while it outlines it, it is never vulgarly suggestive. The changeable effects, either in the material itself or obtained by the lining of one color of satin and then an overskirt of another in shading and contrast. There is almost always a high waist line, but invariably so placed that it adds the effects of length and slenderness. The narrowest fold finishes the skirt where it joins the waist, and often this is hidden under a soft belt or girdle with long knotted ends.



Purple Velvet Gown.



Ermine Evening Coat



Liberty Satin Gown.

for this purpose, but every known and many unknown furs are made up into these scarfs, with muffs to match, as a rule. The fashion has much that is practical about it; it makes possible the wearing of the one piece gown of any material, for it is so simple to throw off the fur wrap when in a crowded room and when the removing of a fitted fur coat would be impossible. The scarf must be both wide and long or it will not be smart. When the cost of the fur has to be considered it is possible to gain something of the same effect with the scarf made of velvet, satin or ratine trimmed with bands of fur, on the same order as the chiffon and marabout scarfs that have been fashionable for some time

noticeable costume, also of ratine, or velvet. The double skirt is crossed and fastened over at the side with large rosettes